

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
Office of the City Manager
Letter to Commission No. 226-2004



To: Mayor David Dermer and
Members of the City Commission

Date: August 18, 2004

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jorge".

Subject: HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COMMITTEE'S REQUEST

The purpose of this LTC is to inform you of the Administration's recent discussions with Avi Mizrachi, Executive Director of the Holocaust Memorial Committee who approached the City with a proposal to build a 1,460 +/- square foot classroom/lecture hall to accommodate its patrons during Holocaust related lectures and other related events. The proposal entails encumbering the westernmost portion of the Municipal Parking Lot 5H (Lot 5H), located directly south of, and adjacent to, the Holocaust Memorial site. The Lot 5H includes 28 metered spaces (6 of which are "bagged" and contain signage limiting the use for the Holocaust Memorial staff) and an additional 2 handicap designated spaces. Preliminary plans, as proposed by the Committee, appear to impact 3 metered parking spaces and the 2 handicap designated spaces (along with the driveway in-between). Additional parking spaces may be impacted if there are any regulatory issues related to landscaping, means of egress, etc. As proposed, costs associated with the planning, design, permitting, construction, maintenance and operation of the facility would be borne by the Holocaust Memorial Committee, with the City providing the necessary portion of the parking lot to site the proposed facility.

The Parking Department informs that no "parking bond" funds have been used for Lot 5H, thus that does not appear to be an issue. The Lot 5H, as budgeted for in FY 2003/2004, was expected to generate \$9,500.00. Year to date figures reflect that the revenues generated at said Lot are \$5,150.00 (about 72% of budgeted) as of June 30, 2004. Financial impact to revenues generated at Lot 5H, due to the lost of parking spaces (if project moves forward as proposed above), is estimated to be just under \$2,000 annually.

The recently amended City Charter requires that the lease of certain City-owned properties, for a period of more than 10 years, be approved by the voters via referendum. Lot 5H appears to be zoned as Convention Center District and has a Public Facilities designation under the Future Land Use map. A cursory review of the Charter reveals that all parking lots in the Convention Center area are subject to the referendum.

This information has already been communicated to the Holocaust Memorial Committee. I will keep you updated as to their position with regards to pursuing this matter further. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to let me know.

JMG/vr

c: Christina Cuervo, Assistant City Manager
Jose Damien, Asset Manager

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